

Santen's THIOLA Tablet 100 Obtains Additional Indication of Treating Cystinuria

July 8, 2002 --- Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. announced that on July 5, it had received approval from the Japanese Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labor for its metabolic improving and detoxicating agent, THIOLA Tablet 100, in the treatment of Cystinuria.

Cystinuria is a condition with increased excretion of cystin and other amino acids in the urine, which is caused by a genetic defect of amino acid metabolism. Because cystin is not easily soluble in water, some patients with cystinuria may develop urinary calculus. It is estimated that approximately 10,000 patients suffer from cystinuria in Japan, of which around 1,000 patients have the urinary calculus condition.

THIOLA Tablet 100 dissolves the calculus and prevents recurrence through a chemical reaction in the body, which transforms cystin into a water-soluble agent.

- THIOLA Tablet 100 -

Brand name: THIOLA Tablet 100

Active ingredient: Tiopronin

Indications: Improvement of hepatic functions in chronic hepatic diseases, incipient senile cortical cataract, increase of mercury excretion in mercury poisoning cases, and the treatment of cystinuria

Launched: August 1970

Annual sales: Approximately 400 million yen (fiscal year ended March 2002)

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